**Anne Hathaway**

Historical ref-wife’s response to will

Structure

* 14 lines=sonnet-favourite poetic structure of Shakespeare
* Soft rhyme-less strict-assonance and alliteration

*‘Item I gyve unto my wife my second best bed …’*

(from Shakespeare’s will)

Metaphor-suggests love made them dizzy, thrilling, exciting romantic relationship

The bed we loved in was a spinning world

Hamlet

R&J

Macbeth, Hamlet

MSND

Fairytale imagery-link between Shakespeare’s creations of fiction and their exciting magical relationship-allusion to specific Shakespearean settings

Euphemism-WS treats her like a prize, something precious

 of forests, castles, torchlight, clifftops, seas

The Tempest

Metaphor-seduced by words/talent-rare, spectacular,

 where we would dive for pearls. My lover’s words

Emjambment used throughout-free flow of love

 were shooting stars which fell to earth as kisses

 on these lips; my body now a softer rhyme

Calling to one another

Words as physical affection extended metaphor-bodies designed to fit together

 to his, now echo, assonance; his touch

WS brings her to life (verb=action, noun=thing)-animated by his touch

Vowel rhyme-oooh, aaah-sounds of pleasure

 a verb dancing in the centre of a noun.

Imagines herself as a creation

 Some nights, I dreamed he’d written me, the bed

 a page beneath his writer’s hands. Romance

Intimacy of writing process linked to sexual/romantic intimacy

 and drama played by touch, by scent, by taste.

Contrast between beds-their bed=used, enjoyed

‘best’ bed-preserved, unused

Sensory imagery-vivid recall of time together-immersed in memory-reliving

Acting as muse for his works

 In the other bed, the best, our guests dozed on,

Straight forward writing, not poetry

Boredom, sleepiness

 dribbling their prose. My living laughing love –

Alliteration used to emphasise strong feelings-liveliness and vitality of relationship

I hold him in the casket of my widow’s head

tender

Metaphor-compares mind to a casket-preserving the memory of him

 as he held me upon that next best bed.

Call back to quotation from Shakespeare’s will